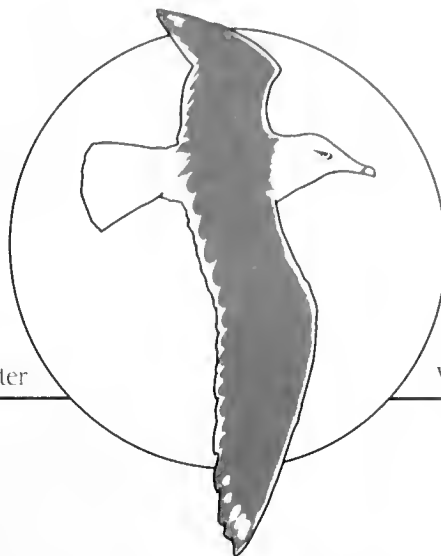


The Gull

Golden Gate Audubon Society Newsletter

Volume 79, No. 5 May 1997



Kenya in 1998 Anyone???



PHOTO BY ALAN HOPKINS

Golden Gate Audubon Society is arranging an itinerary for a trip to Kenya for August or September of 1998. On the '94 and '95 trips to Kenya, GGAS members experienced the Wildebeest and Zebra migration on the Masai Mara, watched lions, leopards, and cheetahs in Samburu National Reserve, and saw the elephants of Ambosli. Like most Audubon trips, there were plenty of birds to see as well. Just a few of the species both groups saw were: Secretary Bird, Lesser Flamingo, Gray-crowned Crane, Lilac-breasted Roller, Malachite Kingfisher, along with hornbills, bee-eaters, and a variety of iridescent sunbirds.

If you have any interest in joining us on an African safari, please feel free to call Alan Hopkins at (415) 664-0983.

Please note: Monthly meetings are now on the third Thursday of the month. See back page.

Conservation News & Thoughts

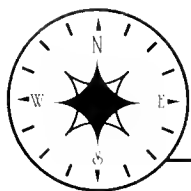
by Arthur Feinstein and Carolyn Kolkas

Hi, everyone. In the last *Gull* we asked you to write your Congressperson to oppose HR 511, a bill that would force National Wildlife Refuges to give human recreational uses equal standing with wildlife preservation. This would

severely hinder the ability of these refuges to provide a home for wildlife. Imagine how you would feel if a jet ski came roaring through the marshes and over your nest.

Thank goodness for our own

Continued on page 5



Field Trips Calendar

GAS field trips are conducted by experienced birders who wish to share their knowledge and love of birds with others. All trips are free of charge (except for entrance fees that may be charged by regional, state, or national parks) and are open to everyone, regardless of membership in the National Audubon Society or Golden Gate chapter.

SATURDAY MAY 3 SUNOL REGIONAL PARK

Meet at 8:30 a.m. inside the park entrance at the parking lot on the left. Take I-680 south, turn off at Calaveras Road. (The freeway sign is marked Calaveras Rd., Dumbarton Bridge, Calif. 84.) Go south (left) and follow the signs to Sunol Regional Park, about 5 miles. Bring lunch and liquids in preparation for a 4-5 mile walk. We expect to see a variety of the common breeding birds, including flycatchers, swallows, vireos, and warblers. This trip is also good for wildflowers. Heavy rain cancels. Leaders: Gloria Markowitz and Ken Ackerman (415)892-2910 \$(*)

SUNDAY, MAY 4 WILDCAT CANYON REGIONAL PARK

Meet at 8 a.m. by the Arlington Clubhouse on Arlington Blvd. (next to the tennis courts between Brewster Dr. and Thors Bay Rd.) in El Cerrito. From there we will drive a short distance to the trailhead on Rifle Range Rd. We will encounter hills as we walk a transect of the canyon to bird the brushlands, oak woodlands, riparian streamsides, and grasslands. We anticipate seeing a few late migrants and a good representation of nesting birds including Grasshopper Sparrows and Lazuli Buntings. We will also identify common trees of the area. People with allergies should be aware that we will

encounter grassy conditions. Bring lunch and liquids for a 6-mile hike. The trip will end at 2 p.m. Leader: Malcolm Sproul (510) 376-8945. (*)

SUNDAY MAY 11 MT. DIABLO STATE PARK

Meet at 9 a.m. at the Rock City parking lot, one mile after passing through the South Gate entrance. Take Hwy. 24 to Walnut Creek, then go south on I-680 to Danville. Take the Mt. Diablo Rd. exit, go left under the freeway, and follow the signs to Mt. Diablo State Park. We will look for Rufous-crowned and Sage Sparrows, Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, swifts, swallows, woodpeckers, and warblers. This riparian habitat should be productive. Bring lunch and liquids. Trip ends about 1 p.m. Leader: David George (510) 339-6848. \$(*)

WEDNESDAY MAY 14 MINI-TRIP TO BRIONES REGIONAL PARK

Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the west entrance to Briones Regional Park, off Bear Creek Road. Meet at the parking area on the left, just beyond the fee booth. Directions: see April 27 Briones trip. We should see Northern Orioles, Lark Sparrows, Ash-throated Flycatchers, and Lazuli Buntings. Leaders: Anna Wilcox (510)351-9301, and Jean-Marie Spoelman.

SATURDAY MAY 17 BOUVERIE AUDUBON PRESERVE

(Near Glen Ellen) This 400 acre preserve is known for its flowering plants (over 350 species) as well as 100 bird species. The trip will be from 9:30 to 1:30. Bring lunch and wear hiking shoes for a 2 to 5 mile, mildly to moderately strenuous hike. The group will be divided into small groups and paired with a Bouverie

Audubon docent. This trip is by reservation only. To reserve a space call Nancy at (707) 938-4554. Directions and information about the meeting time and place will be mailed to participants.

SUNDAY, MAY 25 TENNESSEE COVE, GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the trailhead. From San Francisco take Hwy. 101 north to Marin Co. and exit on Hwy. 1 toward Mill Valley and Stinson Beach. After about one quarter mile turn left onto Tennessee Valley Road and continue to the end of the road. Lunch optional for this half-day trip through riparian area to the shore. Beginners welcome. Leader: Bob Hogan (415) 258-0811. (*)

FRIDAY – SUNDAY, MAY 30–JUNE 1 YOSEMITE'S BIRD LIFE

The lower and middle elevations of Yosemite National Park are alive with singing birds in early June. A variety of habitats support a rich diversity of bird life, typically including 7 flycatchers (4 Empidonax), 3 vireos, 7 warblers, and many other species in full song and breeding plumage. Meet at the Big Oak Flat entrance on Friday, May 30, at 3 p.m. and Saturday, May 31, at 7 a.m. (If you arrive later Saturday morning, meet the group in Hodgdon Meadow behind the Hodgdon Meadow Group Campsites.) The meeting place is the large parking lot 100 yards inside the park entrance on Hwy. 120 (30 minutes from Yosemite Valley). Nearby campgrounds include Hodgdon Meadow and Crane Flat in the Park (reservations required: (800-436-7275); Carlon and Middle Fork (primitive Forest Service campgrounds) on the road to Hetch Hetchy, and Sweetwater on Hwy 120. Lodging on

Hwy. 120 includes Yosemite Gatehouse (209) 379-2260, Evergreen Lodge (209) 379-2606, Lee's Middle Fork (209) 962-7408, and Buck Meadows Lodge (209) 962-5281. Bring warm clothes, raingear, rubber boots (wet meadows) and a large flashlight for owling. Be prepared to pack a lunch and walk about 6 miles. Leaders: Dave Quady (510) 704-9454 and Bob Lewis (510) 845-5001. \$ (*)

SATURDAY, JUNE 7 HAYWARD REGIONAL SHORELINE

Meet at 9 a.m. at the visitor center on Breakwater Avenue for this half-day trip. Take I-880 to Hwy. 92 (Hayward/San Mateo Bridge exit). Exit at Clawiter, cross Clawiter onto Breakwater Court. Turn left onto Breakwater Ave. There will be breeding swallows, baby stilts, and avocets. Beginners welcome. (Visitor center opens at 10:00. No other facilities.) Leader: Bob Lewis (510) 845-5001.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 11 MINI-TRIP TO REDWOODS REGIONAL PARK

Meet in the park at 9:30 a.m. Take the Warren Freeway (Hwy. 13), exit onto Redwood Road, and proceed east about 3 miles to Redwood Gate, southern entrance to the park. Meet just inside the small parking lot on the left. We should see Black-headed Grosbeak, Swainson's Thrush, Bullock's Oriole, Solitary, Hutton's and Warbling Vireos. Bring lunch. Leaders: Anna Wilcox (510) 351-9501 and Jean-Marie Spoelman. \$(*)

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, JUNE 14-15 YUBA PASS

On Saturday meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Yuba Pass summit parking area (Hwy. 49) 19 miles east of Sierra City. Take I-80 to Truckee, go north on Hwy. 89 to Sierraville and take Hwy.

49 west to Yuba Summit. (Or take Hwy. 49 northeast from Auburn for a slower but more scenic route.) We will bird the mountain areas for summer residents including Dippers, flycatchers, warblers, and Calliope Hummingbirds. On Sunday meet at 8 a.m. at the intersection of Hwy. 49 and 89 (by the sawmill) about 1 mile north of Sattley. We will caravan to Sierra Valley looking for birds of the eastern Sierra, including White-faced Ibis, Sandhill Cranes, Sage Thrashers, and Yellow-headed Blackbirds. Camping is available at the following U.S. Forest Service campgrounds of Hwy. 49: Wild Plum (elev. 3300 ft.) 2 mi. east of Sierra City and Chapman Creek (elev. 5800 ft.) 8 mi. east of Sierra City. Lodging is available in Sierra City: Sierra Chalet: (916) 862-1110, Buttes Motel: (916) 862-1170, Herrington's Sierra Pines: (916) 862-1151, Basset Station Motel (916) 862-1297, Sierra Buttes Inn Motel: (916) 862-1191 and Yuba River Inn (916) 862-1122. Leader: Peter Allen (415) 892-8065. (*)

PLAN AHEAD: JUNE 27-29 LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK

Leaders: Dan and Joan Murphy (415) 564-0074. Camping at Manzanita Lake, or lodging 15 miles north of the park at Hat Creek Resort, Old Station (916) 335-7121 for reservations.

Trips marked with a (\$) go to parks or other sites which require an entrance fee. Carpooling arrangements will be attempted for trips marked with a (*). See below. Problems, etc.: If you need a ride or can take a passenger, if you need information and have difficulty reaching a field trip leader, if you have suggestions for trips, or IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN LEADING A TRIP, call Lillian Fujii (510) 236-4167, Field Trips Committee Chair.

Help Wanted

The Golden Gate Audubon Society is looking for someone to provide part-time office help. The job entails answering the phone and responding to questions, often about birds and environmental issues, data entry on IBM type computer, filing, and retail sales (bird seed and feeders).

Job requirements: Computer competence (we will train for the programs we use, but applicant must have basic computer skills). Filing abilities. Pleasant personality on the phone and with visitors. Able to take instructions from supervisor and work cooperatively in a small office.

Hours and wages: Nine hours per week divided into three 3-hour periods (office hours are 9-12 and 1-4 Tuesday through Friday) to be decided upon by mutual agreement. The salary is \$10/hour including taxes and Social Security deductions.

If you are interested, please call Arthur Feinstein, at (510) 843-2222.

Thank You

On the behalf of the Sociedad Audubon de Panama, I wish to thank the Golden Gate Audubon Society for the donations of binoculars for use with the Books and Binoculars Program. Your donation is for a very worthy cause since it allows us to work with conservation groups throughout the Republic of Panama, to whom this gift of binoculars is of great significance. These groups qualify for the donation because they are very limited in their resources and because they have shown an interest in conservation activities, preferably with an emphasis on birds.

Golden Gate, via its Panama Committee, has been paying close attention to our activities and has supported us in many ways as indicated below:

- contributions of binoculars for many years
- sponsoring Dr. Daniel Evans to be the guest speaker of the 1995 Bird Festival
- a donation of \$500 for the 1996 Bird Festival
- the upcoming donation to send the PAS Director to the National Audubon Mexican Conference

For all of these contributions we are eternally grateful. Panama Audubon wishes to thank you again for your constant cooperation and looks forward to our upcoming visit.

Sincerely,

Norita Scott-Pezet, PAS President

If you are interested in learning more about our relationship with the Panama Audubon Society, or in joining the Panama Committee, the next meeting will be held on Monday, May 12, at 7:30 p.m. at Committee Chairman Miles McKey's house, 76 Hillcrest Rd., Berkeley. For more information call Miles at (510) 652-5854.

Elections

Yes, it's time to elect officers again to GGAS's board.

The candidates are as follows:

OFFICE	CANDIDATE	YES	NO
First Vice Pres.	Alan Hopkins	_____	_____
Recording Secretary	Leslie Lethridge	_____	_____
Corresponding Secretary	Pat Gannon	_____	_____
Treasurer	Kay Loughman	_____	_____
East Bay Director	Leora Feeney	_____	_____

Please fill out this ballot and send it to:

Golden Gate Audubon Society
2530 San Pablo ave., Suite G, Berkeley, CA 94702

Gifts and Bequests

Janice Andersen, Edward & Mildred Bennett, Clement & Elaine Burnap, Lucien & Louise Le Ca, Carmen Coyns, John Conley, Eleanor Crary, Debrah & Michael Cussen, Ruth Dement, Virginia Evens, Phoebe Felker, Anne-Marie Fleming, Patricia Gannon, James & Ruth Gravanis, Hollis Greenwood & Mary Pat Power, Totten & Joanne Heffelfinger, John & Ann Kadyk, Joan & Natan Kotlyar, Michael & Jane Larkin, Leslie Lethridge, William & Toni Link, Luther & Virginia Linkhart, Jean & Ernest Lucken, Mignonet Montez, R. Malcolm Ohl, Hilda Olson, Don & Gloria Osterloh, David Powell & Janet Nesburg, Laury Rosenthal, James & Mary Ross, Dorothy Shattuck, W.E. & J.B. Siri, Richard Sproul, John Stedman & Julie Brook, Matilda Stewart, Barry & Catherine Stone, Carol Straus, George & Helene Strauss, Robert Tufft, Fred & Mildred Twining, Thomas & Janice Vargo, J. Whitley, Russell & Dorothy Wilson.

In memory of:

Marjorie Robinson in memory of Ansel Molfino
Pauline Hale in memory of Clarence Williams

Bird Box:

Elizabeth & Alan Baldrige,
John & Jeanette Dang

Conservation:

Berkeley Garden Club

A New Bill Flows Through Congress

by Lisa Viani

Called "the most practical environmental bill to come through the door" by one senator's staff, the Waterways Restoration Bill almost made its way through the 140th Congress as an amendment to the 1995 Farm Bill, when it was cut at the last minute. This spring, Representative Elizabeth Furse from Oregon will reintroduce the bill, which requires no new federal funding but would revamp the Small Watershed Program, created in the 1950s to reduce flooding and erosion and to improve water quality - but by building small dams and channels. The new bill promotes environmentally healthy methods of stream restoration and flood control (such as bioengineering to stabilize banks and using riparian greenways and flood plains to contain overflows and enhance habitat) over the old engineered

ways. Projects that offer environmental benefits to low-income or ethnic minority communities while training and employing at-risk youth in those communities would be given special consideration.

This bill also offers an important opportunity to preserve and enhance bird habitat and to restore native riparian plants. Please contact Senator Feinstein (415-536-6868, fax: 202-228-3954), Senator Boxer (415-403-0100, fax: 415-956-6701), and your representative and urge them to sign onto the bill as cosponsors. Please thank Congressman George Miller (510-262-6500) and Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi (415-556-4862) for their continued support of this bill. For more information contact the Waterways Restoration Institute at (510) 848-2211. }

Conservation

Continued from page 1

Congressman George Miller. A longtime leader for sound environmental policies, Miller has responded to this attack on refuges by introducing HR 952, the "Theodore Roosevelt Wildlife Legacy Act," which would make recreational activities subordinate to wildlife uses. HR 952 also gives preference to wildlife-dependent recreation over other uses, such as jet skiing, grazing, and others that have nothing to do with appreciating wildlife.

If you live in his district, please write Congressman Miller and thank him for introducing HR 952. If you do not live in his district, please write your own Congressperson and ask him or her to support HR 952. Your Congressperson's address is:

Representative _____
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Thanks! }

Learning Made Fun

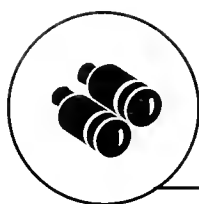
by Louise Harm

The Education Committee is off to an exciting start! We will begin monthly family Saturday morning walks in local parks geared for families with children of all ages, each concluding with a picnic. Our first will take place at Crab Cove in Alameda on June 28th. Look for more details in the June *Gull*. Also in the June *Gull*, watch for the first ever *Gull Kid's Page*. The committee has many great ideas

and would like your input. Are there particular programs you would like GGAS to provide for children and families? If you would like to volunteer or contribute directly to the committee, contact the Education Chair, Louise Harm at (510) 845-2482, or call the GGAS office for the time and location of the next meeting. We look forward to hearing from you! }



PHOTO BY JOHN GIBBONS



March 1 to March 27

Albatross to Kittiwake

In Point Arena, MEN, the Laysan Albatross continued to be seen through the end of this Observations period. In previous years it has typically departed around this time, to move on to unknown destinations. The first pelagic trip of the year to the Cordell Banks on Mar 1 (DN) also recorded 2 of this species in addition to 12 Black-footed Albatross, 10 Northern Fulmar, and small numbers of both Sooty and Short-tailed Shearwaters.

At Bodega Bay, SON, the **Emperor Goose** also continued to be reported at its typical haunt at the West Side Boat Launch area, where it has remained throughout its stay. New reports of Tufted Duck this month included birds at Oakland, ALA, on Mar 6 (JR); at Benicia State Recreation Area, SOL, on Mar 8 (BP), and at Novato, MRN, a female, on Mar 10 (RS). The previously reported 2 males on San Francisco Bay were again found near East Palo Alto, SCL, on Mar 8 (SR).

The female **King Eider**, found in Jan off the Chimney Rock at Point Reyes NS, MRN, remained at least through Mar 20 (LL, RS). Harlequin Ducks continued at Point Reyes NS and Monterey. Scattered Oldsquaw were also reported from many coastal locations, while a single bird at the Benicia State Recreation Area, SON (RL), was notable. Eurasian Wigeon were also well reported from many counties, with 3 in San Benito on Mar 2 being interesting (LL).

Bald Eagles again returned to the Del Valle Regional Park, ALA (JM), where this species bred last year, that being the first time that this species has bred in the Bay Area in over a century. The only report of Rough-legged Hawk was from Sonoma on Mar 8 (AW).

Pacific Golden-Plover remained at Spaletta Plateau, PRNS, MRN, throughout the period with up to 5 birds present. A Lesser Yellowlegs at the Gray Lodge Wildlife Refuge, BUT,

on Mar 1 & 2 (PJM) was interesting while an exceptionally early report of Pectoral Sandpiper was of 2 birds at the Santa Fe Grade, MER, on Mar 2 (KMCK). This species is not only scarce in our area in Spring but is typically seen much later in the season.

Up to 5 Black Skimmer continued at the Charleston Slough/Shoreline area, SCL, throughout the period (MOB). A Tufted Puffin was reported at Pigeon Point, SM, on Mar 1 (RST) where a Pomarine Jaeger and a Black-legged Kittiwake were also seen during the same seawatch. Up to 30 Black-legged Kittiwake were also reported from the Cordell Bank on Mar 1 (DN).

Sapsuckers to Sparrows

Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers remained at Ed Levin County Park, SCL, and at the Phipps Ranch, SM.

The 2 Cassin's Kingbirds in San Benito at the Paicines Reservoir were last noted on Mar 1 (per MPRBA). The overwintering Ash-throated Flycatcher at the Guadalupe River, SCL, also remained throughout much of the month as did the **Dusky-capped Flycatcher** in San Francisco (Pine Lake Park).

An Eastern Phoebe was found at the Coyote Point State Park, SM (PJM, MOB), on Mar 4, only the third county record. This bird remained at least through Mar 16. Another was present at Shady Oaks SP, SCL, from Mar 3 onwards (MM), this bird having overwintered at this location in previous years. A Northern Shrike was found in Arcata, HUM, on Mar 10 through 16 (DA).

Warbler arrivals and numbers began building up in our area as the month progressed. The early and middle part of this period saw the first arrivals of Orange-crowned, Nashville, Hermit, and Wilson's Warbler. Of the more uncommon species, highlights included Lucy's Warbler in Monterey and continuing Black & White and Hooded Warblers.

The details include:

Black & White Warbler

Continuing – Lake Merritt, Oakland (MOB)

Lucy's Warbler

Mar 3 – Moss Landing, MTY (per MPRBA)

Palm Warbler

Mar 25 – 2/3 at Point Reyes, MRN (JR)

Hooded Warbler

Continuing – Guadalupe River, SC (SR)

The monthly *Observation* column is generated from reports made to the Northern California Bird Box and Monterey Peninsula Rare Bird Alert (MPRBA) or to the author. Some sightings are unconfirmed, and numbers of birds are often best regarded as estimates or "best guesses". In general, birds in boldface are very rare in our region, geographically or seasonally. Many of these are currently reviewed by the California Bird Records Committee (CBRC). Observers are encouraged to provide written and/or photographic documentation to the CBRC, c/o Michael Patten, P.O. Box 51959, Riverside, CA 92517-2959 for any species currently on the review list. A list of review species can also be obtained from the CBRC secretary at the address above.

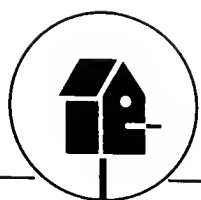
This data is made possible by all the observers who contributed their reports to the Northern California Bird Box and Monterey Peninsula Rare Bird Alert (MPRBA).

If anybody has photos of birds reported in this column and would be interested in letting us post them on our web site, we would be very appreciative. Please feel free to contact me to discuss.

Abbreviations for Observers: DA, David Anderson; GD, Gary Deighi; HF, Harry Fuller; KHi, Kevin Hints; RL, Robin Leong; LL, Leslie Lieurance; JL, John Luther; MM, Mike Mammoser; JMa, Jennifer Matkin; JM, Joe Morlan; KMCK, Kevin McKerrigan; PJM, Peter Metropolis; DN, Dan Nelson; MOB, many observers; BP, Benjamin Parmeter; JR, Jean Richmond; SR, Steve Rottenborn; DSh, Doug Shaw; RS, Rich Stallcup; RST, Ron Thorn; AW, Alan White

Abbreviations for counties: ALA, Alameda; BUT, Butte; CC, Contra Costa; HUM, Humboldt; MRN, Marin; MEN, Mendocino; MER, Merced; MTY, Monterey; SB, San Benito; SF, San Francisco; SM, San Mateo; SCL, Santa Clara; SOL, Solano; SON, Sonoma; YOL, Yolo.

Other abbreviations used: AMSP, Andrew Molera State Park, Monterey; BSOL, Big Sur Ornithology Lab, MTY; CCRS, Coyote Creek Riparian Station, PRNS- Point Reyes National Seashore, Marin; SEFI, South East Farallon Islands, San Francisco; per MPRBA – per Monterey Peninsula Rare Bird Alert.



American Redstart

Mar 5 -Natural Bridges SP,
MTY, (per MPRBA)

The Summer Tanager at the San Francisquita Creek, SCL, was last reported on Mar 2 (MM). Hooded Orioles arrived back in San Francisco on Mar 23 (HF). The female Rose-breasted Grosbeak in Half Moon Bay, SM, continues to be seen coming to a feeder as of this writing (GD).

Lingering Cassin's Finch in our area included a bird in Oakland, ALA, on Mar 19 (JL) and 2 in Hayward, ALA, on Mar 16 (KHi). Large numbers of Red Crossbill continued to be reported from many coastal locations especially San Francisco, while the first coastal reports of the season for Lawrence's Goldfinch were from Bodega Bay, SON, on Mar 26 (DN).

The female Lark Bunting in Panoche Valley, SB, remained at least through Mar 1 (DSh). Notable sparrow reports were scarce, but a singing Grasshopper Sparrow at Del Puerto Canyon, CC, on Mar 22 (JMa) was the first reported this year while a continuing White-throated Sparrow at Pescadero Creek, SM, on Mar 22, (RST) was one of the few records of this species this winter.

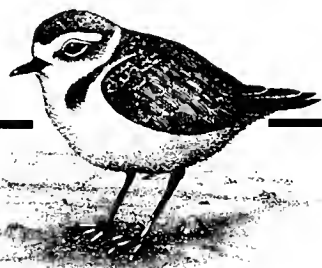
With spring arriving, we look forward to the return of many of our birds from their winter vacations to the south - Mexico and Central and South America. Many of them brighten our area with their colorful plumage: Hooded and Bullock's Orioles, Western Tanagers, flycatchers, and many warblers, to name a few. Sadly, their numbers seem to be diminishing (at least in our area). Attracting these beauties to our yards has been discouraging. What's going on here? A logical assumption is that the tropical forests, their wintering grounds, are ebbing away.

A recent newsletter from the Point Reyes Bird Observatory (PRBO) had a suggestion for those of us with concerns. It has to do with coffee. Coffee consumption has increased dramatically, and Americans drink about 33% of the world's brew. As tropical forests have been disappearing, they are being replaced by cash crops such as coffee. Production in Latin American countries has

nearly doubled since 1950, while in Mexico and Costa Rica alone, production has increased almost sixfold. The traditional method of growing coffee has been in the shade of towering trees. It makes sense that these plantations support a variety of plants that in turn support many insects, amphibians, birds, and other animals. PRBO is working hard to protect the wintering grounds of the many migratory species we share with our southern neighbors. They are offering training courses and technical assistance to determine how agriculture and land management practices affect both resident and migratory birds. They are also encouraging traditional methods of coffee production, of course.

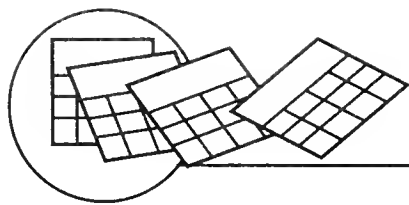
Here's what PRBO says we can do to help. We can make it clear to Latin American farmers that we will only drink shade-grown coffee by asking for it specifically. By asking, we are telling the purveyors of our latte that we are aware of choices to be made in coffee-growing methods. This way we can hope that the farmers will hear us and listen to the economic incentives for using traditional agricultural ways. It is difficult to put ourselves in the place of someone in a poorer country. It is more important to put food on the table than to save a forest with some birds in it, but if we can make it economically interesting, we may succeed.

Selfishly, I hope we can enjoy the beauty of these birds that migrate such distances for generations to come. Toast them with shade-grown coffee!



Birdathon

The last bird has been counted and Birdathon 1997 is now a pleasant memory. Now's the time to honor those pledges. Or if you forgot to pledge you can send a check for any amount to the GGAS office. Questions? Call Anna-rie Bratton at (415) 452-1809. Also, those of you who contribute or have gathered pledges of \$100 or more will receive a Birdathon T-shirt with the design above, created by Alan Hopkins.



May Meeting

Meet the Family Gruidae

Used as symbols of love and grace throughout the world, cranes have always captured our fascination. Whether it is their beautiful dances, haunting calls, or their struggle to escape extinction, they are hard to ignore. One person doing everything but is Mini Nagendran.

The Director of Bird Conservation for Audubon - California, Nagendran is an international specialist on cranes having worked with various species throughout Asia and North America. She has worked with USFWS International Affairs, The Wild Bird Society of Japan, and the International Crane Foundation.

Fortunately, she has found time in her busy schedule to join us at our next meeting where she will talk to us about some of the crane research and conservation efforts that she has been involved in both in the U.S.A. and overseas.



Thursday, May 15

7:30 p.m.

Northbrae Community Church

941 The Alameda, Berkeley

Topics addressed will be general biology, breeding and migratory behavior, endangered and threatened species, conservation techniques, habitat needs, telemetry, and education. So migrate to our next meeting and join in on this fascinating discussion.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

As a member of National Audubon Society, you are automatically enrolled in the local chapter, Golden Gate Audubon Society. Chapter benefits include receipt of *The Gull*, access to field trips and programs, and the opportunity to volunteer. Call the office if you have any questions.

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Berkeley, CA 94702

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	Carolyn Kolka, '98
	Michael Larkin, '99
Director-at-Large	Janice Andersen, '99

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(510) 652-5854

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